

I. BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention concerns that of a new and improved health apparatus for use by individuals while driving.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART

United States Patent No. 5,974,586, issued to Reinoso, discloses a pair of sleeves to be worn by a user to provide sun protection for the skin on the arms and shoulders.

United States Patent No. 5,628,062, issued to Tseng, discloses an arm protection UV-proof sleeve secured with an elastic closure for use by a driver to prevent skin damage from the sun.

United States Patent No. 5,056,157, issued to Pryor, discloses a fabric covering for protecting the upper arm of an individual from excess solar radiation while projecting an arm out of the window of a vehicle.

III. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention concerns that of a new and improved health apparatus for use by individuals while driving. The health apparatus would be an arm shield which would be worn over an individual's "outside arm" while driving. The arm shield would reduce sun exposure on the arm and would be attached via two end-mounted elastic bands. An extra hood could be wrapped around the individual's hand on the outside arm for added protection.

There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of a health apparatus for use by individuals while driving that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood and in order that the present contribution to the art may be better appreciated. There are, of course, additional features of the health apparatus for use by individuals while driving that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

In this respect, before explaining at least one embodiment of the health apparatus for use by individuals while driving in detail, it is to be understood that the health apparatus for use by individuals while driving is not limited in its application to the details of construction and to the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The health apparatus for use by individuals while driving is capable of other embodiments and being practiced and carried out in various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of descriptions and should not be regarded as limiting.

As such, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the conception, upon which this disclosure is based, may readily be utilized as a basis for the designing of other structures, methods and systems for carrying out the several purposes of the present health apparatus for use by individuals while driving. It is important, therefore, that the claims be regarded as including such equivalent constructions insofar as they do not depart from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a health apparatus for use by individuals while driving which has all of the advantages of the prior art and none of the disadvantages.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a health apparatus for use by individuals while driving which may be easily and efficiently manufactured and marketed.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a health apparatus for use by individuals while driving which is of durable and reliable construction.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide a health apparatus for use by individuals while driving which is economically affordable and available for relevant market segment of the purchasing public.

Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become more readily apparent from the following detailed description of the preferred embodiment when considered with the attached drawings and appended claims.

IV. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 shows a side view of the present invention.

Figure 2 shows a representative view of the present invention as it would appear in use.

V. DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Priority is hereby claimed to application 60/437,087, filed on 12/31/02.

Figure 1 shows a side view of the present invention. Arm shield 2 would have two ends, a first end and a second end, with each end being open. Arm shield 2 is tubular and has a varying diameter. The first end of the arm shield 2 would have a diameter of ten inches, while the second end of arm shield 2 would be have a diameter of four inches.

Arm shield 2 itself would preferably be fabricated from a thermo-type cotton fabric or a 80 % cotton/20% lycra/spandex weave. To ensure that arm shield 2 would stay attached to an individual's arm, the first end of arm shield 2 would have elastic band 4, while the second end of arm shield 2 would have elastic band 6. Each elastic band would be circumferentially attached to the arm shield 2.

Arm shield 2 would also have a hood 8 which would be attached to the arm shield 2 near the second end of the arm shield 2. Hood 8 has two ends, a first end and a second end, with the first end of the hood 8 being attached to the arm shield 2. Hood 8 also has two sides, a first side and a second side. Hood 8 would merely be an extra piece of fabric that would be wrapped around an individual's hand after the arm shield 2 had been placed over an individual's arm.

Attached to hood 8 is elastic strap 10. Strap 10 has two ends, a first end and a second end, with the first end attached to the first side of the hood 8 and the second end of the strap 10 attached to the second end of the hood 8.

In order to secure hood 8 around a person's hand, the hood would be folded over to cover the sunlight-exposed portion of a user's hand. Then, the individual would insert their hand through strap 10 so that strap 10 would wind around underneath the

individual's hand. Strap 10 helps the hood 8 to remain fixed in a position immediately above the person's hand.

Figure 2 shows a representative view of the present invention as it would appear in use. Arm shield 2 would be most useful when an individual would be driving with their window down, would be wearing short sleeves, and would have some sun exposure on the "outside arm," or in other words, the arm closest to the outside. Arm shield 2 would allow the individual's outside arm to experience air flow, while at the same time, would virtually eliminate any chance of the individual receiving sun exposure on the outside arm. Arm shield 2 would therefore reduce excessive sun exposure on the covered skin, which is quite important now that the ozone layer is somewhat diminished.

Also, patch 14 on hood 8 is shown, along with patch 16. Patch 14 and 16 are each a patch of a two-part complementary hook and loop attachment system, with each patch having a plurality of connectors 18. One of the plurality of connectors is a plurality of hooks, while the other plurality of connectors is a plurality of loops. When attached to one another, they will be removably connected to one another until pulled apart. A user could removably attach the second end to the arm shield 2 by placing patch 14 against patch 16 on the arm shield 2. When attached to one another, the hood 8 will be removably connected to the arm shield 2 until pulled apart.